



News From

Maggie Brooks

Monroe County Executive

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MONROE COUNTY PARTNERS WITH MCC AND OPTICS INDUSTRY ON TRAINING PROGRAM

Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks today joined Monroe Community College President R. Thomas Flynn and area optics manufacturers to announce a partnership to offer a new industry-certified training program in optics at MCC.

"Monroe County is proud to partner with MCC and the optics industry to offer this job training and job placement program. This new program represents a unique collaboration between government, education and business," said Monroe County Executive **Maggie Brooks**. *"Partnerships like this are exactly what we need to advance economic growth and job creation in our community."*

"We're offering a tailored educational program that addresses an identified need in our community for better qualified optical fabrication technicians," said **R. Thomas Flynn**, President of MCC. *"In turn, this program will give the area's current and future employees dual training in optical fabrication and precision machining, two industries with an expressed need for workers."*

The optics program bundles existing courses in optical systems technology and precision manufacturing. It addresses a need for skilled and qualified workers at area high-tech companies. Local optics manufacturers estimate they will need about 100 workers each year over the next five years.

Training funds to participate in the optics program are available to eligible candidates through RochesterWorks.

In July 2005, Monroe County also partnered with MCC and area manufacturers to promote job training and job placement opportunities in the precision manufacturing industry.

Today's announcement was held at JML Optical Industries, which recently moved to a larger facility at 820 Linden Avenue, to accommodate the company's growth. Monroe County provided incentives for JML's expansion.

"Monroe County is proud to partner with MCC, optics manufacturers and RochesterWorks on this important program. Optics is a fast growing industry in our area and we must ensure that companies have the skilled workers they need to compete and succeed in the global economy," **Brooks** concluded.

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